

NEWS RELEASE

National Forests of Utah



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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<http://fs.usda.gov/uwcnf>

2014 CHRISTMAS TREE PERMITS

Salt Lake City, Utah, November 7, 2014 – The holiday season is coming and thousands of people every year cut their Christmas tree in national forests. Cutting a Christmas tree in a national forest is a family tradition for many residents of Utah. Weather conditions in the mountains are unpredictable, so always be prepared for winter weather. Stay on designated roads and trails. Be prepared for slick, snow-packed roads and have chains, a 4-wheel drive vehicle, or a snow machine available. Let someone know where you are planning to go and approximate time you will return. Carry a cell phone; bring additional warm clothing, and gloves, boots, and a container of hot liquid, water, and a lunch or snack. Carry a flashlight, chains, shovel, first-aid kit, matches, a hatchet, ax or handsaw, and rope to secure your tree.

Trees must always be cut close to the ground leaving the stump no higher than 6 inches. A shovel will come in handy to dig through the snow to reach the base of the tree. Make sure your permit is attached to the tree before leaving the cutting area. **TREE TOPPING IS NOT ALLOWED.** No cutting is allowed within 200 feet of riparian areas (lakes and streams), roads, campgrounds, picnic areas, administrative sites, summer home areas, or within designated closed areas shown on tree cutting area maps.

ASHLEY NATIONAL FOREST: (435) 789-1181 – <http://fs.usda.gov/ashley>

Flaming Gorge Ranger District: (435) 784-3445 - Permits will go on sale Saturday, November 15. Permits will be available at the Flaming Gorge Ranger District office, intersection of Highway 43 & 44, Manila, Utah from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday and on Saturday, November 15th, 22nd and 29th from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Permits will also be available at Flaming Gorge Resort, Highway 191, Dutch John, Utah, Sunday-Thursday 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Friday and Saturday, 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. Permits will also be sold at the Green River Office, located inside the Green River Chamber office, 1155 Flaming Gorge Way, Green River, Wyoming, Mondays and Fridays only from 9:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Cost of the non-refundable permit is \$10.00.

Duchesne Ranger District: (435) 738-2482 - Permits may be purchased at the Duchesne Ranger District office, 85 West Main, Duchesne, Utah, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. beginning Monday, November 17. Permits may be purchased starting Saturday, November 15 at the Bonanza Store, 94 East Main Street, Duchesne, Utah and they are open 24-7, (435) 738-2393. Permits may also be purchased at the Hanna Country Store, State Route 35, Hanna, Utah, (435) 848-5752, Stewart's Market at the Customer Service Desk, 245 West Highway 40 in Roosevelt, Utah, Monday through Saturday 8:30 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., closed Sundays, (435) 722-5650, and Davis Jubilee Food & Drug, at the Customer Service Desk, 750 East 2nd North, Roosevelt, Utah, Monday through Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 11:00 p.m. and Sunday, 7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. (435) 722-2296. Permits are \$10.00 each, one permit per household.

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Vernal Ranger District: (435) 789-1181 –Permits may be purchased at the Vernal office, located at 355 North Vernal Avenue, Vernal, Utah, Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., beginning Monday, November 17. Starting Saturday, November 15, 2014, permits can be purchased at the following businesses 7 days a week; Davis Jubilee Store, at the Customer Service Desk, 575 West Main, Vernal, (435) 789-2001, Monday through Saturday 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sundays 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m., Shirley's Country Corner, 6982 North 9500 East, Highway 12 in LaPoint, (435) 247-2690, Monday through Saturday 5:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Sundays 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Permits are \$10.00.

DIXIE NATIONAL FOREST: (435) 865-3700 – <http://fs.usda.gov/dixie>

Cedar City Ranger District: (435) 865-3700 - Permits go on sale Monday, November 10. Permits can be obtained at the Cedar City Ranger District office, 1789 North Wedgewood Lane, Cedar City, Utah, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits will also be available at Hurst Ace Hardware Store, 165 South Main, Cedar City, Utah (435) 865-9335. Permits are \$10.00 for a tree up to 10 feet and \$20.00 for a tree 11 feet to 20 feet, one permit per household, and two trees maximum. The only species of trees that can be cut are sub-alpine fir, white fir, and pinyon pine. Please check with the Cedar City Ranger District office before traveling to obtain the most current road condition information.

Escalante Ranger District: (435) 826-5400 – Permits are now available and can be purchased at the Escalante Ranger District office, 755 West Main, Escalante, Utah from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits may also be bought at Antimony Merc, Antimony, Utah (435) 624-3253, 7 days a week from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Contact the Escalante Ranger District for a list of other vendors. Permits are \$10.00, one permit per household, one tree only. All species of tree may be cut, except bristlecone pine.

Powell Ranger District: (435) 676-9300 - Permits are now available and can be purchased at the Powell Ranger District office, 225 East Center Street, Panguitch, Utah from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits are \$10.00 for a tree up to 10 feet and \$20.00 for a tree 11 feet to 20 feet. All species of trees can be cut, except bristlecone pine. To obtain a permit by mail, contact the Powell Ranger District.

St. George Interagency Visitor Center: (435) 688-3246 or (435) 652-3100 - Permits go on sale Monday, November 10, 2014. Permits can be purchased at the Visitor Center, 345 East Riverside Drive, St. George, Utah, from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Permits may also be purchased at Veyo Mercantile, 13 North Main Street, Veyo, Utah (435) 574-2749, Monday through Thursday, 6:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., and Friday and Saturdays from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m. Permits are \$10.00. Pinyon pine and juniper are the only species of trees that may be cut. One individual can purchase up to 5 tags.

FISHLAKE NATIONAL FOREST: (435) 896-9233 – <http://fs.usda.gov/fishlake>

Christmas tree permits sell for \$10.00 each and they must be obtained in person. Mail orders and phone requests will not be accepted. The permits must be securely attached to the harvested tree and remain with that tree during transport. Most species of trees on the National Forest may be cut, except for ponderosa pine. Permits may be bought at any of the Fishlake National Forest offices. These offices are not open on weekends, except as noted. Location and dates of sale at national forest offices are as follows:

Richfield Ranger District – 115 East 900 North, Richfield, Utah – Beginning Monday November 17, permits may be purchased during regular office hours, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday, as well as on Saturday November 22 and November 29 from 8 a.m. to noon both days. For more information, call 435-896-9233.

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Fremont River Ranger District - 138 South Main, Loa, Utah – Permits may be purchased during regular office hours, 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Fishlake Basin Recreation Area, including Johnson Valley, is closed to tree cutting from the Forest Boundary on the West to Zedd's Meadow on the East. For more information, call 435-836-2811. **Cutting ponderosa pine is prohibited except on the Boulder Mountain of the Fremont River Ranger District.**

Fillmore Ranger District – 390 South Main, Fillmore, Utah - Permits will be sold November 17 through December 19 at the office in Fillmore, 390 South Main Street, Fillmore, from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. The Fillmore office will be open three Saturdays: November 22, November 29, and December 6, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. Purchase limit is one permit per household (additional tags may be purchased for neighbors, family members, etc.). Suggested cutting areas are as follows: Whiskey Creek, John Williams Canyon, Chalk Creek, Meadow Creek, Cove Fort, Willow Creek, and Wild Goose Canyon. **NO** trees may be cut in Dry Creek and Oak Creek Canyon. For more information, call 435-743-5721.

Beaver Ranger District – 575 South Main, Beaver, Utah - Permits may be purchased during regular office hours, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Blue spruce may NOT be cut. Tree cutting is not allowed in the Merchant Valley Summer Home area or along the visible edge of SR-153. For more information, call 435-438-2436. As a convenience to the public, permits will be available again this year at:

- Beaver Sports and Pawn, 91 N. Main, Beaver, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., seven days a week
- Fishlake Lumber, 1627 N HWY 357, Beaver 8 a.m. to 6 p.m., Monday through Saturday
- Piute County Sheriff Office, 550 N. Main, Junction, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday
- Don's Sinclair, 215 W Main, Salina, Monday-Saturday
- Larsen's Ace hardware, 1155 S US Hwy 118, Richfield, Monday-Saturday

The Fishlake National Forest encourages those purchasing permits to be prepared for bad weather and poor road conditions. In addition, ensure trees are cut on the national forest, not private land. Maps are available from national forest offices.

MANTI-LASAL NATIONAL FOREST: <http://fs.usda.gov/mantilasal>

Ferron/Price Ranger Districts: (435) 384-2372/ (435) 637-2817 and Moab/Monticello Ranger Districts (435-259-7155): Christmas tree permits will be on sale at the Ferron, Ephraim and Price offices of the Manti-La Sal National Forest beginning Nov. 24 for \$10 each. Sales will begin at Moab and Monticello offices on Nov. 17. District offices (Ephraim, Ferron, Moab and Monticello) are open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. The Supervisor's Office in Price is open weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

There is a limit of three permits per person. Purchasers will need to provide a credit or debit card, check or exact change. There will be no refunds. To buy a permit for a tree taller than 8 feet, the buyer must pay 50 cents per additional foot, payable when the permit is purchased. Permits should be purchased on the district where trees will be cut.

The Forest will also sell tree permits through the mail. Customers should send a self-addressed, stamped envelope, with a request for the permit, their name, mailing address, phone number, and a check for \$10/per permit in an envelope marked "Attention: Christmas Tree Sales. Make checks payable to: USDA Forest Service. A permit will be sent by return mail. A purchaser may request authorization for trees taller than 8 feet (see above) as part of their order, and include the additional costs in their payment.

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Orders should be sent to the district where the tree will be cut: Supervisor's Office/Price District, 599 W. Price River Drive, Price, Utah 84501, phone, 435-637-2817; Ferron-Price District Office, P.O. Box 310, Ferron, Utah 84523, phone, 435-384-2372; Moab District Office, P.O. Box 386, Moab, Utah 84532, phone, 435-259-7155; Monticello District Office, P.O. Box 820, Monticello, Utah 84535, phone, 435-587-2041; and the Sanpete District Office, 540 N. Main Street, Ephraim, Utah 84627-1117, phone, 435-283-4151.

The following private vendors will be selling permits: Moab Information Center, 25 E. Center St., Moab; Choice Hardware & Home Center, 1005 N. Main, Nephi; Beck's Home Furnishings, 14 West Main, Mt. Pleasant; Rasmussen Ace Hardware, 435 South Main, Gunnison; The Main Street Market, 15 W. Main St., Ferron; Sutherland Lumber, 406 S Hwy 55, Price. The cost for permits is the same regardless of where they are purchased. Customers traveling long distances for permits should call in advance to determine if permits are still available.

UINTA-WASATCH-CACHE NATIONAL FORESTS: (801) 999-2103 <http://fs.usda.gov/uwcnf>
Evanston/Mt. View Ranger Districts: (307) 789-3194 and (307) 782-6555 - Permits for the Evanston will be available Friday, November 14. Permits are \$10.00, one permit per household, one tree only. Permits can be purchased at the Evanston Ranger District Office, 1565 South Highway 150, Suite A, Evanston, Wyoming, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday. Permits may also be purchased at Bear River Lodge located 30 miles south of Evanston on the Mirror Lake Highway, (435) 642-6289. A permit allows up to a 20 foot tree, any species of tree may be cut, but lodgepole pine is the main species in the area. Snow conditions may require permit holders to use snowmobiles, cross-country skis, or snowshoes to access the cutting area. **The gates on the Mirror Lake Highway and on the North Slope Road are typically closed during the first week of December, limiting access for people without a snow machine. Cutting is not allowed in the Lily Lake Cross Country Ski Area.**

Permits for the Mt. View area will be available, Friday, November 14. Permits are \$10.00, one permit per household, one tree only. Permits can be purchased at the Mountain View Ranger District, 321 Highway 414, Mountain View, Wyoming, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday only. Permits may also be purchased at Benedict Thriftway/True Value Store, 950 North, Highway 414, Mountain View, Wyoming, 7 days a week, Monday through Saturday 7:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Sundays 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 pm, (307) 782-3581. Any species of tree may be cut, but lodgepole pine is the main species in the area.

Spanish Fork Ranger District: (801) 798-3571 –The Spanish Fork Ranger District began issuing 400 permits on Thursday, November 6th, at the Spanish Fork Ranger District located at 44 West 400 North, Spanish Fork, Utah. One tree permit per adult (16 years of age and older). There are still 100 permits available and will be sold on a first-come, first-served basis until tags are sold. Tree cutting permits are \$10.00 and are for designated cutting areas within the Vernon area located in Tooele County on the Spanish Fork Ranger District. Only pinyon pine or juniper trees 20 feet tall or shorter may be cut and removed. Trees may be cut until December 24th and all trees must be tagged prior to transporting them.

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